

INFORMATION REPORT

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1. The Czechoslovak mining industry was totally nationalized in October 1945. The country has about 270 mines, which employ approximately 125,000 persons, of whom one-tenth work in an administrative or technical capacity. As a rule, all mines of a particular basin are combined under a single corporation (state-owned company), which is subject to commercial law and is supposed to operate on a commercial basis. The various individual corporations are in turn subordinate to the Czechoslovak Mines National Corporation in Prague. Immediately responsible to the Minister of Industry, Zdenek FIERLINGER, this agency is charged with general supervision of the mines; coordination of planning; research and mechanization; consolidation of financial returns; purchases of machinery abroad; purchases from other Czechoslovak agencies of such necessary materials as timber, oil and finished metal-products; distribution and export of coal and coke, as well as other mining products. In order to satisfy the Slovak demand for economic independence, there exists in Bratislava a regional office of the central administration. The Bratislava agency exercises direct control over the basin-corporations in Slovakia, and, although subordinate to Prague headquarters on policy, enjoys a degree of independence in the sale of Slovak coal and other mining products abroad. The exact relationship between the central administrative agency and the individual basin-corporations throughout the country has not as yet been fully worked out in practice. According to the proposed plan, the basin-corporations were to be allowed considerable freedom of action and to bear responsibility for economic results of such action. In practice, however, the central administrative agency has exercised ever-increasing power, even including appointment of the staffs of some of the basin-corporations. Since the central administrative agency controls all general planning, price-fixing, and collective contracts with miners' unions, not much leeway is left for truly independent management.

The individual basin-corporations are as follows:

- a. Ostrava Hard Coal Mines National Corporation, Ostrava. Production per annum: approximately 13,000,000 tons. First-class coking coal is found in the western part of the basin, good industrial coal in the eastern sector in the Karvina area. The coke ovens in this basin, enlarged by the Germans, have a capacity of 4,500,000 tons per annum, but are now producing some 2,000,000 tons.

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- b. Rosice Hard Coal and Lignite Mines National Corporation, Rosice. Production per annum: approximately 1,500,000 tons. Fifty per cent dust makes for difficult working conditions. The chief consumer is the Brno Electrical Works. Attached to this basin are lignite mines in southern Moravia, where lignite of inferior quality is mined for local consumption only.
- c. Western Bohemian Hard Coal Mines National Corporation, Pilsen. Production per annum: approximately 1,500,000 tons. This enterprise is nearing exhaustion; part of the coal, especially from the small mines, is of poor quality.
- d. Central Bohemian Hard Coal Mines National Corporation, Kladno. Production per annum: approximately 2,500,000 tons of coal, 400,000 tons of iron ore.
- e. Eastern Bohemian Hard Coal Mines National Corporation, Trutnov. Production per annum: approximately 800,000 tons. This corporation consists of two small basins, at Zacler and at Svatonovice. The chief consumer is the Eastern Bohemian Electrical Works.
- f. North Bohemian Brown Coal Mines National Corporation, Most. Production per annum: approximately 25,000,000 tons of brown coal of all qualities, ranging from 2900 to 5500 calories per kilo. Fifty-five percent of production is from open pits, forty-five percent is deep mining.
- g. Falknov Brown Coal Mines National Corporation, Falknov. Production per annum: approximately 4,500,000 tons of inferior quality brown coal.
- h. Pribram Ore and Graphite Mines National Corporation, Pribram. This corporation is comprised of all the ~~non-ferrous~~ metal and graphite mines scattered throughout Bohemia and Moravia. The chief product is lead, of which Pribram produces approximately 2000 tons per annum from its own ore. As an additional source for its large smelting foundry, Pribram last year imported about 5000 tons of lead concentrates from Yugoslavia and Bulgaria, together with an unspecified amount of lead scrap from Holland, England and elsewhere. It is believed that Czechoslovakia's total requirement of lead is about 12,000 tons per annum, and that this amount may not have been secured through production and import in 1947. Pribram also produces wolfram and tin concentrates, which are smelted in England, since Pribram has no facilities for such work. This corporation's graphite production covers home demand, leaving considerable quantities available for export.
- i. Czechoslovak Oil Wells National Corporation, Hodonin. Oil Wells are situated near Zistersdorf in South Moravia, and in South Slovakia. Production per annum: approximately 24,000 tons. This meager yield is mainly due to a lack of machinery for adequate depth drilling. In January 1948, the corporation ordered two drilling sets for drilling to 2200 meters, and two other sets for drilling to 1200 meters. This machinery was purchased for 1,270,000 dollars from IDECC or International Derrick and Investment Company, New York and Dallas, Texas. The machinery is at present being delivered.
- j. Jachymov Mines National Corporation, Jachymov. Now as in the past, final decisions concerning the Czechoslovak uranium mines are made by Zdenek FIERLINGER himself, first as Prime Minister, later as Deputy Prime Minister and now as Minister of Industry. Since FIERLINGER is in the good graces of the Soviets, and since Svatopluk RADA, General Manager of the Czechoslovak Mines National Corporation, has not as yet consolidated his position in the Communist Party, RADA is forced to acquiesce in FIERLINGER's recommendations and Soviet demands with regard to the administration of the uranium mines. Decisions concerning the uranium mines are made by FIERLINGER, working through a special committee of two Czechs and two or three Russians. RADA is authorized to attend meetings of this committee. One of the two Czechs on the special committee is Eng. Jaroslav KOVAR. KOVAR has stated confidentially that FIERLINGER and RADA were making concessions to the Soviets which were costing the government hundreds of millions of crowns, and that, if the present situation continues, the Jachymov mines would be exhausted within five years, with a resultant closing of the radium spa in that area. When the Czechoslovak mines were nationalized, it was at first believed that profits from the Jachymov mines would largely cover deficits from the coal mines; this proved to be far from the case. For example, a statement on the Jachymov mines for January to June 1946 showed a net profit of 2,000,000 crowns. When this figure, regarded as extremely low, was disclosed to the

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of
authorities of the Czechoslovak Mines National Corporation, an inquiry was demanded by a National Socialist board member; the sole result of this demand was that these statistics were suppressed and no further figures have been issued since. Production is believed to be increasing rapidly, since during the latter six months of 1947 several hundred laborers were transferred to Jachymov from Pribram, Falknov and Kladno. It is believed that, as of mid-1947, approximately 1400 workers were employed in the Jachymov mines, including about 500 Soviet nationals and a few hundred local Volksdeutsche. Source is under the impression that Russian laborers receive a much higher wage than the Czechs working on the same project, but that even the latter paid more than miners working elsewhere in Czechoslovakia. The technical staff at Jachymov consists in part of Soviet personnel, and it is believed that important posts within the mines are likewise occupied by Soviet nationals. During the last months of 1947 the Jachymov corporation applied for and was granted an investment credit of one billion crowns, thus indicating that large-scale planning is envisaged, which includes possible opening of new uranium mines. In this connection, KOVAR's committee has been supervising prospecting for new uranium deposits in the Pribram area over a period of about five months with undisclosed results. It is confirmed that uranium ore is shipped to Dresden, put through a process of concentration, and then transported by rail to Russia.

- k. Handlova Hard Coal Mines National Corporation, Prievidza. Production per annum: approximately 800,000 tons. This basin-corporation consists of two basins located at Kacanovce and at Handlova. Coal produced at this basin-corporation is inferior, resembling brown coal in quality.
- l. Iron Ore Mines National Corporation, Spiesska Nova Ves. Production per annum: over 1,000,000 tons of iron ore from deposits scattered throughout eastern Slovakia, and about 500,000 tons of manganese ore. The iron ore is of medium quality, being rated as forty-two percent iron. It is difficult to smelt, owing to its comparatively high content of silicon dioxide.
- m. Central Slovakian Metal Mines National Corporation, Banska Bystrica. This corporation, analogous to Pribram, comprises all the non-ferrous metal mines in Slovakia (i.e., lead and silver mines, damaged during the war, are located near Banska Stavnica, antimony mines near Vajskova, and quicksilver mines near Ruzbachy).

Of all coal districts, the most important are the Ostrava hard coal and Most brown coal enterprises. In the opinion of technical experts, the Ostrava mines are well equipped with underground machinery. They do lack, however, adequate establishments for washing and sorting; the Germans neglected these auxiliary establishments, since they were chiefly interested in output rather than quality. The same observation applies to the Most enterprise, which, in addition, was short of excavation machinery for its open pits until recently. This situation at Most has been somewhat alleviated by deliveries of small excavators from Czechoslovak industry. For future development, however, the Most corporation has ordered two excavators from the firm of Bucyrus-Erie, South Milwaukee, Wisconsin, USA. These excavators, which cost over one million dollars, are scheduled for delivery in 1950. At the American mining industry exhibition, held in May 1947 in Cleveland, Ohio, the Czechs realized how backward their own mines were in respect to loading and transport; they accordingly ordered approximately \$20,000 worth of loading machinery and shuttle-cars from the Joy Manufacturing Company, Pittsburgh, Pa. It is believed that this order has very probably been delivered to Czechoslovakia already. One of the most serious bottlenecks in Czechoslovak industry is a shortage of roller-bearings and ball-bearings. For this reason, some of the large mining machines could not be put into operation.

3. The financial position of the Czechoslovak mining industry, as well as that of all other sectors of nationalized industry, has not as yet been consolidated. To date, all balance sheets still show statements based on the status of 1 January 1946, without revaluation of standing assets in accordance with the monetary devaluation at the close of 1945. (Devaluation enabled the government to repay former owners with devalued crowns, while still using an evaluation of standing assets computed at the old pre-devaluation rate.) Before the Communist coup, a bill was under discussion providing for a Fund of Nationalized Industry. Industries operating at a profit by their contributions would cover the losses of industries showing a deficit. In 1946 the mining industry had a turnover of 8,600,000,000 crowns, of which coal represented approximately ninety percent. In 1947 the turnover is believed to be slightly over nine billion crowns. In 1945 losses amounted to about 850,000,000 crowns; in 1946, to 1,300,000,000 crowns; and in 1947 to about two billion crowns. This increasing loss is due primarily to the fact that in November 1945 coal prices were raised by 300%, whereas wages and social expenditures rose to 550%, with the price of auxiliary materials rising far above the coal price (percentage computed at 1939 wage-price scale). Since November 1945, the government has been adamant in refusing to allow a rise in coal prices, even though

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Czech coal is priced much lower than coal in other European countries. In order to consolidate the financial position of the Czech mining industry and increase the stock capital, as described above, the Fund of Nationalized Industry would have to contribute approximately ten billion crowns, computed on the status of the industry existing on 1 January 1948.

4. Up to February 1948, morale of workers in Czech mines has been far below the pre-war standard, and the output per man-shift has attained only about 75% of pre-war level. This circumstance is partially attributed to improper supervision, and shortage of trained engineers (owing to the Volksdeutsch exodus), but is due primarily to a lack of confidence on the part of the supervising staff which keeps them from enforcing stricter discipline among the workmen.
5. The Czechoslovak Mines National Corporation, Prague Headquarters, consists of a general manager, deputy general manager, advisory board, and five main departments with their staffs. After the general shake-up in February 1948, Engr. RADA was retained as general manager and chairman of the advisory board, while Engr. KOVAR, previously mentioned as one of the members of the special Jachymov committee, was appointed as sole deputy general manager. (There had been three deputy general managers before the February shake-up.) The advisory board consists of twelve members, eleven trade-union representatives and one mining expert, Engr. HOUSKA, a retired manager of the state mines. The political orientation of the advisory board is as follows: six Communists, three Social Democrats, two National Socialists and one member of the Democratic Party. The five main departments are broken down, as follows:

Technical Department:

Engr. BUB, head of department;
 Engr. PETYREK, head of hard coal section;
 Engr. TOMEK, head of brown coal section;
 NU, previously Engr. KOVAR, head of metal mines section.

Planning and Research Department:

Ing. SIMIN, head of planning section and department;
 Engr. MACZEK, head of research section;
 Engr. HLISNIKOVSKY) joint heads of mechanization section.
 Engr. KITNAR)

Commercial and Financial Department:

Mr. MRAZEK, head of department;
 NU, not yet appointed, commercial manager;
 Dr. KAPP, deputy commercial manager;
 Mr. MAGLIC, head of sales section;
 Engr. HYBS, head of purchasing section;
 Dr. VICH, head of tax section;
 Dr. PEXIDER, head of insurance section;
 Mr. KRATOCHVIL, head of bookkeeping section;
 Mr. MARZEK, head of revision section.

Manpower and Welfare Department

Dr. VLK, head of department;
 Dr. SVENOK, head of manpower section;
 Mr. ZICH, head of section in charge of staff personnel;
 Architect HIPMAN, head of propaganda section;
 Mr. KUBANT, head of section in charge of Workers' Councils.

Coal Distribution Department

Engr. SVITAVSKY, head of department;
 Dr. MOSTER, deputy head of department;
 Ten district coal sales offices in Bohemia and Moravia.

Secretariat:

Dr. PRIKOP, general secretary;
 Dr. KLIMA, deputy of general secretary;
 Dr. ROZSYPAL, head of legal section;
 NU, head of headquarters-building administration section.

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Administration Office, Bratislava (see para. 1.)

Engr. Samuel HLOSKO, regional manager;
 Dr. Jan PORUBJAK, deputy regional manager.

6. The administrative agency of each separate basin-corporation is patterned after the central administration, Prague. Each basin-corporation is headed by a central manager with a deputy or deputies. The central manager is chairman of a board, consisting of from six to twelve members, of whom one-third are elected by the workers, and two-thirds proposed by the advisory board of the central administration in Prague and approved by the Minister of Industry. The various departments more or less correspond to those of the central administration, excepting that the technical department predominates. It is noted that large basin-corporations, such as Ostrava and Most with 40,000 and 35,000 employees respectively, have their basins divided into Directorates, with Mining Managers at the head of each directorate. Their subordinates are Mining Inspectors, who supervise the engineers charged with the working of the mines. This latter hierarchy has proved to be rather costly and complicated, and efforts are being made toward simplification. Leading personalities of the various basin-corporations are listed, as follows:

Ostrava:

Engr. OTASEK, central manager;
 Engr. HEREL, deputy central manager;
 Dr. Engr. SUSTA, head of research department;
 Dr. AULICKY, head of administrative section;
 Mr. DUDA, head of financial and bookkeeping department;
 Dr. DOBIAS, deputy to DUDA.

Resice:

Engr. BAMBAS, central manager;
 Engr. SKALA, deputy central manager.

Kladno:

Engr. BOUSKA, central manager;
 Engr. NAHLIK, deputy central manager;
 Dr. BABKA, second deputy central manager;
 Engr. MADAR, inspector.

Pilsen:

Engr. SPACHMAN, central manager;
 Mr. KABERT, head of commercial and financial department.

Trutnov:

Engr. KOULA, central manager;
 Engr. JENTSCHKE, deputy central manager;
 Mr. BABICKA, head of administrative and commercial department.

Most:

Engr. PSTRUZINA, central manager;
 Engr. HONL, deputy central manager;
 Engr. VERES, former deputy central manager, believed to have been discharged in February 1948;
 Mr. PESTA, deputy central manager;
 Engr. VITUJ, general secretary;
 Engr. WAGNER, head of commercial department.

Falknov:

Engr. FORMANEK, central manager;
 Engr. JUZA, deputy central manager;
 Engr. PINOS, former deputy central manager;
 Mr. VANEK, secretary to FORMANEK;
 Mr. STADTLMAN, head of employment department;
 Mr. HOUSER, commercial manager until February 1948.

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Pribram:

Engr. KUBIN, central manager;
Engr. Karel OKTABEC, deputy central manager;
Engr. Josef OKTABEC, inspector.

Hodonin:

Present management unknown to source. Central manager, Engr. BILEK, was recently relegated to inferior position, ostensibly because of inefficiency. Deputy central manager, CHVOJKA, was dismissed in February 1948.

Jachymov:

Engr. HEGNER, former central manager, recently dismissed;
Engr. CIZEK, central manager, formerly deputy central manager;
Dr. HANZLICEK, head of administration and commercial department;
Mr. KOPECEK, former head of bookkeeping section;
Mr. HOSTA, supervisor of basin-corporation's largest mine.

Handlova:

Dr. KIANICKA, deputy central manager.

Spisska Nova Ves:

Engr. NEVJEL, central manager;
Engr. AMBROS, head of technical department.

Banska Bystrica:

No personalities known to source.

7. Before the recent war, almost no Communist held a leading position in any of the Czechoslovak mines. Many mine officials were in fact ardent protagonists of conservative bourgeois political parties. In an effort to protect their positions, however, many of these officials, feeling that their past activity might antagonize the workers, joined the Communist Party in 1945. After the February shake-up many additional officials were practically forced to join the Communist Party. This being the case, it is impossible to give the latest political adherence for many of the following listed officials.

Engr. AMBROS, mechanical engineer in charge of the mechanization of the Spisska Nova Ves basin-corporation; party affiliations unknown.

Dr. AULICKY, chief of administration at Ostrava; joined Communist Party in 1945 to protect his position.

Mr. BABICKA, head of administration and commercial department at Trutnov; party affiliation unknown.

Engr. BILEK, former central manager of the Oil Wells at Hodonin; a Social Democrat; reportedly dismissed for inefficiency in February 1948.

Dr. BABYA, deputy central manager, charged with administration and commercial matters, at Kladno; member of no political party, but favors National Socialists; may have been forced to join the Communist Party.

Engr. BAMBAS, central manager at Rosice; very amiable and likeable person; was forced to join Communist Party, although he privately favors the Catholic Democrats.

Engr. BOUSKA, central manager at Kladno; elderly man, rather passive; Social Democrat; pushed to the background by his deputy, NAHLIK.

Engr. BUB, head of technical department, Prague Headquarters, since February 1948; appears to be too inexperienced for his new position; member of Communist Party since 1945.

Engr. CHVOJKA, deputy central manager of Naphtha mines at Hodonin, discharged in February 1948, present appointment unknown; National Socialist.

Engr. CIZEK, formerly deputy central manager at Jachymov; Communist; promoted to central manager in February dismissal of HEGNER.

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Dr. Dobias, head of financial and tax department at Ostrava; very capable; party affiliation unknown.

Mr. DUDA, head of administration and bookkeeping department at Ostrava; anti-Communist.

Dr. Engr. FORMANEK, central manager at Falknov; National Socialist; forced to join Communist Party in February 1948, although formerly inactive in politics; upright character; outstanding expert.

Dr. HANZLICK, chief of administration at Jachymov; a former judge; ardent and militant Communist; appointed to present position about six months ago.

Engr. HEGNER, former central manager at Jachymov; member of no party, but was considered Catholic Democrat, being the son-in-law of a former representative of this party; discharged in February 1948, present position unknown.

Architect HIPMAN, chief of propaganda department at Prague headquarters; Communist of long standing.

Engr. HLISNIKOVSKY, chief of mechanization department at Prague headquarters; anti-Communist, at least until February 1948; efficient mechanical engineer; believed open to bribery.

Engr. HONL, former central manager at Most, now reduced to deputy central manager; outstanding intriguer, who played workers against technical staff and Ministry against central administration; Communist since 1945.

Mr. HOSTA, former superintendent of largest mine at Jachymov, transferred to Kladno in January 1948, after SNB had demanded his removal from Jachymov; district chairman of National Socialist Party; has weakness for women.

Mr. HOUSER, former commercial manager at Falknov; about 28 years old; inexperienced; long-standing Communist, but considered decent fellow by his colleagues; came into conflict with his party in February left his position, and is now completing his studies at the Commercial College in Prague.

Mr. HYBS, commercial official, in February 1948 appointed head of purchasing department of Prague headquarters; incompetent, stupid and dishonest; Communist.

Engr. JEMTSOKEZ, deputy central manager at Trutnov; former National Socialist, believed to have been forced to join Communist Party to protect his position.

Engr. JUZA, deputy central manager at Falknov, entrusted with administrative and commercial matters; great intriguer and Communist of the worst type.

Mr. KABERT, head of commercial and financial department at Pilsen; formerly held similar position at Trutnov; very capable and honest but difficult to deal with; was ardent National Socialist.

Dr. KAPP, deputy commercial manager at Prague headquarters; Social Democrat; almost ready for retirement; not very practical.

Dr. KIANICKA, deputy central manager at Handlova, in charge of commercial matters; very active and able; Slovak; party affiliations unknown.

Engr. KITNAR, assistant head of mechanization section at Prague headquarters; outstanding mechanical engineer; elderly and in poor health; may soon retire; party affiliations unknown.

Dr. KLIMA, official in secretariate at Prague headquarters; former National Socialist, who was forced to join Communist Party in February 1948; anti-Communist in sentiment.

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M. KOPECEK, former chief bookkeeper at Jachymov, removed from his post in February 1948; present function unknown; ardent National Socialist; honest man.

Engr. KOULA, central manager at Trutnov; Social Democrat; stubborn, and not considered especially capable.

Engr. Jaroslav KOVAR, deputy general manager of Prague headquarters since February 1948; entrusted under FIERLINGER, with supervision of the Jachymov mines, and member of the joint Soviet-Czech committee dealing with Jachymov; a Social Democrat and secret anti-Communist; in dealings with Soviets represents Czech interests, often opposing RADA in his stand; has Ruthenian wife practicing medicine in Prague.

Mr. KUBANT, member of Social Welfare department of Prague headquarters, entrusted with supervision of the Workmen's Councils; intriguer who has never done any constructive work; militant Communist; uneducated; has sister who is servant girl of Prime Minister GOTTWALD.

Engr. KUBIN, central manager at Pribram; bourgeois by temperament, but Communist Party member since 1945; not very popular or efficient, vain.

Engr. Ladislav MACEK, head of research section at Prague headquarters; outstanding geologist, and pleasant personality; non-political, refused to join Communist Party.

Engr. MADAR, mining inspector at Kladno; formerly an ardent National Democrat, he is now a militant Communist.

Mr. MAGLIC, since February 1948 head of selling section, dealing with products other than coal, of the Prague headquarters; former lead merchant; good friend of RADA; not considered very trustworthy; non-party.

Dr. MOSER, deputy head of the coal-selling and distributing department of Prague headquarters; Social Democrat of Western orientation; capable person; sportsman.

Mr. Jan MRAZEK, head of commercial and financial department of Prague headquarters; formerly non-party, he joined the Communist Party in February 1948; very capable in bookkeeping and financial matters, but has little experience in commercial affairs; honest and well-mannered; would work with zeal for any regime.

Engr. NAHLIK, deputy central manager at Kladno; Communist Party member, but takes little interest in politics; unpleasant, brusque, domineering.

Engr. NEVIEL, central manager of the Spiaska Nova Ves mines; outstanding expert; inactive in politics.

Engr. Karel OKTABEC, deputy central manager at Pribram; Social Democrat.

Engr. Josef PETYREK, head of hard coal section of Prague headquarters; Social Democrat; enjoys good reputation as expert.

Dr. PEXIDER, head of insurance section of Prague headquarters; formerly active in Social Democratic Party.

Engr. PINOS, former deputy central manager at Falkov, discharged recently for political reasons; Social Democrat.

Dr. PRIKOP, General secretary of the Prague headquarters; non-political, and favors Catholic Democratic Party, yet joined the Communist Party in February 1948 after considerable pressure was brought to bear; long-standing government official of high integrity and capability.

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Engr. PSTRUZINA, since January central manager at Most; bourgeois in demeanor, but Communist since 1945; an opportunist; not considered capable of fulfilling his present duties.

Engr. Svatoplyk RADA, general manager of Prague headquarters; mining engineer; prior to the recent war spent a few years in Bulgaria; during the war was in India, later in Russia, where he joined the Czech brigade, returning to Czechoslovakia at the close of the war as a captain; became Communist during the war; about 43 or 44 years old; jovial nature, likes to drink, and has a weakness for women; likes to make quick decisions, but has little knowledge of administration.

Dr. ROZSYPAL, head of the legal section, secretariate, of Prague headquarters; Communist of long standing; no political ambitions; appears to be slightly disillusioned in Communist ideology.

Engr. SIMIN, head of planning and research department of Prague headquarters; formerly member of Catholic Party; ardent Communist since 1945; head of Communist organizations in the mines; very industrious and ambitious.

Engr. SKALA, deputy central manager at Rosice; party affiliations unknown.

Engr. SPACHEMAN, central manager at Pilsen; National Socialist who was forced to join Communist Party in February 1948; dissatisfied with present conditions and desirous of retiring; very honest; calm.

Dr. Vaclav SUSTA, former deputy central manager at Ostrava, who ^{was} to resign in February 1948, and is now head of the geological research section; National Socialist; reserved in manner; more a scientist than a business man.

Dr. SVENGR, head of manpower section of Prague headquarters; Communist; modest in behavior, not aggressive.

Mr. Josef SVITAVSKY, head of coal distribution department of Prague headquarters; opportunist; former National Socialist, joined Communist Party in 1945; considered dishonest; very aggressive.

Engr. TOMEK, head of brown coal section of Prague headquarters; head of Social Democratic Party within the mines, and chairman of trade-union organization within the industry; decent person; not sufficiently capable to fulfil his present duties.

Engr. Jindrich VERIS, former deputy central manager at Most; discharged in February 1948; National Socialist;

Engr. VITUJ, general secretary at Most; formerly member of Agrarian Party; a militant Communist since 1945.

Dr. Vaclav VLK, head of manpower and welfare department of Prague headquarters; former lawyer; partisan during the recent war; has pushed himself into the front ranks of the Communists; after 1945 revolution was appointed plenipotentiary for the Most basin; later became secretary general of Mining Economic Department, an organization subordinated to the Federation of Industries; great spender of public money; believed to have been quite disappointed when he was not appointed general manager of all the mines; has made bad mistakes in labor policy; RADA wanted to fire him on two occasions, but without success; great friend of SLANSKY, general secretary of Communist Party; dangerous person.

Engr. Jaroslav WURM, former deputy general manager of Prague headquarters; relied too much on his position in the Social Democratic Party; was not wholly loyal to the general manager, who availed himself of the February 1948 shake-up to discharge him; transferred to position in ceramics industry; father of four children; at present in need of money; likes to gamble.

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Engr. Samuel PILTZ, former deputy general manager of the Prague headquarters, Slovak; non-party; during the recent war was general manager of Slovak State mines; about 59 years old but older in appearance.

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